



# Howard County Government Media Advisory

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## Media Contacts

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## Howard County's Commission on Disability Issues to hold 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Leadership Awards Ceremony

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – The Howard County Commission on Disability Issues will hold its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Leadership Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 1, to honor the achievements of county residents with disabilities, their advocates, employers and service providers.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA has had a significant impact on the ability of people with disabilities to be included in employment, state and local government, business opportunities, telecommunications and more. This event provides an opportunity to celebrate successes and reflect on challenges that remain for people with disabilities. The keynote speaker, Marian Vessels, will discuss these issues at the awards presentation event.

This event is free and open to the public. To request accommodations to participate in this event, contact Erica Lewis at 410-313-6402 (voice/relay) or [ealewis@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ealewis@howardcountymd.gov).

**WHO:** Allan H. Kittleman, Howard County Executive  
Carol Beatty, Secretary, Maryland Department of Disabilities  
Marian Vessels, Director, Mid-Atlantic ADA Center  
Howard County Commission on Disability Issues Members

**WHAT:** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 1, 7:00 pm

**WHERE:** The Bain 50+ Center  
5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia

**WHY:** To celebrate and honor the achievements of Howard County residents with disabilities, their advocates, employers and service providers.

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